

BEST PRACTICE CATALOG

Project Title: **PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP**

Function Category: ☐ PATIENT-FOCUSED ☒ ORGANIZATION ☐ STRUCTURES

Subcategory: **Management of Human Resources** Heading: **Orientating, Training and Educating Staff**

Key Word(s): **Psychology, Education, and Patient Care**

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Hospital: **Patton State Hospital**

Purpose: The American Psychological Association accredited psychology internship program was created over 34 years ago to foster development of well-rounded entry level clinical psychologists who can function effectively in a wide variety of settings and who have also developed some specialized skills in the areas of forensic psychology and treatment of the severely mentally ill. Over time, it has come to serve three additional purposes for the hospital. First, opportunities to teach in a nationally recognized training program attract (and retain) excellent psychology staff. Second, graduates from this program are highly competitive and valued entry level psychologists at Patton and other DMH and CDC facilities. Finally, the internship program provides the psychology staff at Patton with avenues to keep abreast of the latest developments in clinical and forensic psychology.

Brief Description: The psychology internship program at Patton is a nationally recognized program for clinical psychologists that attracts highly qualified applicants from the United States and Canada. The clinical psychology internship consists of a year of full-time supervised clinical practice in psychological assessment, psychotherapy, and consultation. Though clinical psychology interns typically have had considerable direct clinical experience with patients, the internship year forms the bridge between academia (in which there is a focus on the science of psychology and human behavior) and its application for patients/clients.

Selection Basis/Criteria:

The following items are available regarding this Best Practice:

☐ Photographs ☐ Video Tape ☐ Drawings ☒ Manual

☐ Other : _____

DATE SUBMITTED: **October 16, 1998**